
HOUSE BILL 2239

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 1st Special Session

By Representatives Heavey, Horn, Rasmussen, Cole, G. Fisher, Cantwell, Valle, Jacobsen, Nelson, Scott, Ferguson, Wood, Mitchell, Paris, Pruitt, May, Winsley and Wineberry.

Read first time June 27, 1991. Referred to Committee on Revenue.

1 AN ACT Relating to reductions in assessed valuation of residences
2 where the residence is the property owner's primary residence; adding
3 a new section to chapter 84.36 RCW; and providing a contingent
4 effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 84.36 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 The assessed value of each owner-occupied residence that is the
9 principal residence of the property owner shall be reduced below its
10 true and fair value as provided in this section.

11 The county assessor shall determine the arithmetic mean true and
12 fair value of residences in the county as of the first day of January
13 in each year. The assessed valuation of each eligible residence for
14 purposes of property taxes imposed that year for collection the
15 following year shall be calculated by reducing the true and fair value

1 of the residence by an amount equal to fifty percent of the arithmetic
2 mean residential value in the county. Where the true and fair value of
3 the residence is less than fifty percent of the arithmetic mean
4 residential value in the county, the assessed valuation of the
5 residence shall be zero.

6 A claim for exemption under this section shall be made and filed on
7 or before the first day of June of any year for purposes of taxes
8 imposed that year, and payable in the following year, and thereafter
9 and solely on forms prescribed and furnished by the department.

10 As used in this section, the term "residence" shall mean as defined
11 in RCW 84.36.383.

12 The reduction in valuation that is provided in this section shall
13 be in addition to any other tax exemption provided in law for
14 residences.

15 The department shall adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW
16 implementing this section.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act shall take effect
18 January 1, 1992, if the proposed amendment to Article VII of the state
19 Constitution, that permits the legislature to provide for reductions in
20 property taxes on owner-occupied residences, is validly submitted to
21 and is ratified by the voters at a general election held in November
22 1990.